

Wilmington Recorder.

UNION—THE CONSTITUTION AND THE LAWS—THE GUARDIANS OF OUR LIBERTY.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1841.

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Speech of Wm. H. Shepard.

On the bill appropriating \$150,000 for the purchase of the Raleigh and Weldon Railroad.

The gentleman from Brunswick, in addressing the Senate a few days ago, thought proper, Mr. Speaker, to allude to what he calls the Nag's Head interest in this bill. It is true, he said that the bill of the state had never received any portion of the favor of the state; nevertheless, he hoped this bill would receive the same support from that interest, which at the last session of the Legislature, it had given in similar measures. Being one of the individuals thus specially referred to, I will state frankly the reasons why I cannot respond to the gentleman's appeal, and aid him in passing this bill through the Senate.

It is not my purpose, to discuss the merits of this bill. I intend merely to state myself of this opportunity of stating the reasons why I have adopted the course I intend to pursue upon this and all similar measures. I intend my remarks merely as explanatory and in justification of my own course, without designing or hoping to influence that of others. In doing so, I may perhaps subject myself to the charge of egotism. My excuse, sir, however, will be, that a justification of the course I intend now to pursue upon subjects similar in character to the one under discussion, render such allusions indispensable.

I intend, sir, to vote against the bill now on your table, in every form and shape in which it can be presented to this body, and yet, sir, I do so with the greatest reluctance. The friends of this measure have, however, left me no choice as an Eastern man. They have, by their conduct, compelled me to vote against this and all similar measures which may be brought before this body, or be faithful to my own home, which we are told is a crime worse than that of being an infidel. Were I standing here merely as an individual, with no other rights and interests to protect than those personal to myself, I would act differently. But, sir, I represent the rights of Pasquotank and Perquimans. They have, for a short time, entrusted to me, as their agent, the guardianship of those rights, and I would be guilty of treason, were I to vote for this bill.

All associations of men for the promotion of their common interests, particularly those of a political character, are compromises of principle and local interests for the general welfare. It is, however, the province of local interests not to conduct with the general welfare, it is the duty of a good government to distribute its favors through the medium of its territory or position of its inhabitants may feel its blessing. It would mislead the people, which, while it extracts from the poorest as well as the richest soil, returns upon each alike its fertilizing showers. All governments are economical which pursue a different course, and it matters little to the private of the country that may be oppressed, whether her tyrant number one or many.

Whenever there comes to be a sympathy between the ruler and the ruled, wherever those who have the power, treat with contempt or indifference, any portion of the rights or interests of the people, the government is a tyranny, call it by whatever name you will. And whenever its indifference proceeds from ignorance, it is an odious and contemptible tyranny, unbefitting a freeman to tolerate, or even a man to endure. Unfortunately for mankind, this latter feeling is too often the predominant one. Selfishness is the ruling passion where men act in masses, and in the attainment of its object, truth, justice and humanity are frequently disregarded.

I am an advocate for indiscriminate liberty of a public character. National liberty is the dream of enthusiasts. All that can be said for a government is, that it has been established, and is sustained by an enlightened and virtuous people. Three principles, sir, which I believe to be sound, I have endeavored to be governed by, in the humble part which I have acted upon the subject of Internal Improvements, since I have been a member of the Legislature of North Carolina. I am, however, forced to change my opinions, and I shall state frankly and honestly, the reasons why I do so. It is here, we who the East have been met by our Western brethren with an intense selfishness, the goods anything I have hitherto met with in the history of legislation.

I said that I would vote against this bill with great reluctance, and that reluctance is unfeigned. I have been for many years an advocate for what is called internal improvements, from a deep conviction that such a system for the development of our resources, is indispensable for our prosperity as well as prosperity. I have labored much in the other states of the Union, and I have been often deeply disappointed, and grieved, to hear the

which are frequently made upon my native state, and to know the character which she bears abroad, a character of immaterial or permanently changed by a momentary effluence of political excitement; for beyond a few barren praises, North Carolina can never hope for anything more than the jackal's portion in the division of the spoils of the federal government.

And, sir, I will tell those gentlemen who are making such desperate exertions to mount the triumphal car, and partake the breeze, that they are destined to bitter disappointment. But should this foreboding not be realized, and some one of our distinguished citizens meet with their just reward, what benefit will this be to the state? It may perhaps, fill a handsome paragraph in a newspaper, and beyond that be about forgotten. I would therefore say to those gentlemen, who think such an achievement will clear our state's reputation from all the aspersions of our enemies, that if our great Whig revolution brings no other fruit than this, we will have paid too dear for the whistle.

North Carolina, within her borders, has all the elements of a great state. She needs nothing more to be all her warm friends wish her to be, than that her councils should be guided by an enlightened self-interest; that the West, which has the power, should treat the East, not as a conquered province, but as a rich and valuable portion of the body politic, entitled to a fair share in the honors, the emoluments and favors of the government.

This is the revolution I wish to see in North Carolina; once more worthy of the attention of our good and wise men, than all the petty office-seeking which seems to have obscured the intellects, warped the judgment and narrowed the minds of all who move in its infected atmosphere. Whenever this revolution is effected, and not till then, can the song of patriotism, for the glory, prosperity and happiness of the good Old North State, second in triumph, or by any thing more than a song.

Deeply convinced of the truth of these sentiments, after eight years' service in the halls of our national legislature, I determined to quit a post where I found nothing could be done to advance the great work in which the Eastern part of North Carolina is so deeply, so vitally interested. I there found the whole of our state delegation, including our senators, our worst enemies. The interests of the Eastern part of North Carolina were almost negligible in comparison with party arrangements and party plans. Our gentlemen were full of constitutionality, but they thought there was not power given in the constitution, even to build a light house, and that we were in vainly bound to grope our way in the dark forever; another gentleman was full of unattainable jargon about paying the public debt, or reducing the tariff. His mind was so completely bewildered with the theories of Mr. Calhoun, that he had neither time nor intellect to devote to the business of his own people.

In this posture of our affairs at Washington, I felt perfectly satisfied that nothing could be done there, and that if a revolution ever took place it must commence here; that the legislature of North Carolina must be induced to take an interest in the improvement of the state and should speak to her servants in the federal government in such a tone that she would command the unprincipled, and stimulate and confirm the weak and wavering.

With these feelings, I took my seat in this body two years ago. Soon after my arrival here, two propositions came before the Senate for their consideration; one for the relief of the Raleigh and Gaston railroad; the other for the construction of a rail road from Fayetteville to the mountains. These were projects in which the middle and western parts of the state took a deep interest. The very strongest appeals were made to the Senate on their behalf. Neither of them, however, could benefit my section of the state in any form or manner whatever. The entire country east of the Roanoke, had no more connection with them, than they could have in a rail road to the moon. Myself, however, and other eastern friends, in the spirit which I have just proclaimed, voted for them, and through our votes, they passed this body. We attached to the latter bill an amendment, proposing a subscription of \$300,000 to the Roanoke Inlet Company, which was rejected. We did not, however, withdraw our support to these measures, but continued their friends to the end. We were told our amendment was rejected, because the surveys made of the inlet were of a conflicting character. Let another survey be made, was then said, and if the measure is reported to be practicable, we will go with you—we will subscribe liberally to the work. The objection was supposed to be reasonable, and was acquiesced in. A new survey has been made by a competent engineer, and his report is all that could be desired. The work is said not only to be practicable, but a great deal more so, and at much less expense than ever was anticipated.

As it is remembered, Mr. Speaker, the

discussion upon these bills assumed very much a party character—the opposition to them came almost entirely from the Van Buren party. We of the east were acting with the Western Whigs, and relied on their promises and known sentiments in favor of internal improvements. The proposition for a western rail road has failed, from the condition of the times; I am sorry for it. The east, however, acted in good faith throughout the transaction, and expected, on our return here, to be treated with similar fairness and liberality. We were met by the Governor's message, referring to the subject of Roanoke inlet to the federal government. I mean, sir, to attach no blame to the Governor's reference. Under the circumstances it was perfectly proper, and a work undoubtedly within the competency of the federal government. I take this opportunity, with great pleasure, of bearing my testimony to the patriotism and public spirit of Governor Dudley. He has throughout his administration, acted as the chief magistrate of the whole state, and not of a corner. Moreover, there has been a great revolution in the federal government. Our political friends will shortly be in power, and we hope wiser councils will prevail at Washington. For the first time, for fourteen years past, there is a ray of hope for the Eastern part of North Carolina, that the government at Washington will perform its duty; and, sir, I have no doubt, if this matter is properly represented to them, an appropriation can be obtained to effect the long talked of work—the opening of the inlet at Nag's Head. And, if we now fail, the blame must rest solely and exclusively with our senators.

I say, if we fail now, the blame will rest with our senators. It is perfectly well known, to every body at all familiar with the mode of doing business at Washington, that the Senate is the only one of the two bodies that attends to public business. All important bills, except those otherwise directed in the constitution, originate and are perfected in the Senate. The House of Representatives is nothing more than a talking machine, where pamphlet speeches are prepared for electioneering purposes.

In this condition of things, since our matter has been referred to Washington, we had a right to expect that our Whig brethren from the west would have had the generosity to yield us on the floor of the Senate of the United States, at least one advocate of our claims. It may be said, what can we complain of, since both the gentlemen have expressed themselves favorable to the re-opening of Roanoke inlet by the general government? Sir, we are told by General Harrison, our present speaker, that promises made on the eve of an election are not worth having; and that a man whose previous political life does not give an assurance of good conduct, ought not to be trusted.

As one of the representatives of this great interest, I complain of the thing done, and of the mode and manner of doing it. I say to the country, that the west has not acted in good faith in this matter; that they have jeopardized the great interest of the eastern part of North Carolina, for the poor and pitiful pleasure of giving an office to a western man. How was this extraordinary unanimity produced, in the election of our senators? It was done, sir, by that potent machine called a caucus—a power which has grown up in this country greater than the Constitution itself—whose omnipotent and midnight decisions no man has the courage or dares to disobey. It is thus, in madness, in the bosom of its unfortunate victims, the spirit of party—a spirit which eradicates from the bosom all love of country, and infuses into it the bitter hatred of our political opponents—which makes us regard our neighbor and our countryman, who has embarked his fortune and his life in the same vessel of state with ourselves, as our worst enemy, if he differs from us upon the best mode of sailing the ship.

Well aware of this unfortunate infirmity, craft and cunning men always sound the tocsin of party, when they wish, for a selfish purpose, to impose upon others. "The party is in danger," has been the cry since the birth of the Albany Regency, of hypocrisy and meanness.

Well did Nathaniel Bacon—the brightest name in our history—a man who stands unrivalled for purity of character, great natural sagacity, and attachment to liberty; though many hate him because he loved the people—say, that he had attended one caucus, and would never attend another; for he found it no place for an honest man.

In my region, Mr. Speaker, the people know but little about this business. I will, therefore, describe the one I witnessed, that they may be better informed for the future. I intend, Mr. Speaker, to talk very plainly about this caucus matter. It has assumed in itself the right of deciding the most important question which can come before the legislature—in fact, it is the argument—a question in which my constituents felt a deep interest, to the decision of which they looked with great anxiety—and they have a right to know how the issue was brought about.

Before we had got warm in our state—before gentlemen from the different sections of the state could have an opportunity of becoming acquainted with each other, and of exchanging views—the third night of the session—a majority of the legislature were summoned to a caucus, to decide who should be senators. Upon meeting, a proposition was presented requiring each man to pledge himself to vote in the legislature for the individuals who might procure the largest vote upon balloting in caucus. We of the east asked for delay, for time to think upon so important a matter. We asked, why this indecent haste? We asked that the legislature might decide the matter unbiassed. Our requests were all refused; and the alternative was presented of separating from our political friends, or plunging headlong into an abyss, the depth of which we could not see. We choose the latter, having a generous confidence in the justice and generosity of our political associates. The result will show whether this confidence was deserved.

In which of the chronicles of wisdom, Mr. Speaker, is it recorded, that the law makers of the land, who are supposed to have inspired a little of that divine essence, are required to pledge themselves to perform something, they know not what?

For what have we been warring against the Van Buren party for the last four years? Because to party they gave up the rights of their constituents—because its members had surrendered all right of individual opinion; and blindly obeyed the dictates, sometimes of the kitchen cabinet, and sometimes those of king caucus. They were called collar men—slaves—and every opprobrious epithet that a fertile or indignant fancy could suggest, was heaped upon their devoted heads; and yet, sir, we are adopting the same course; we have not only seized the spoils of office, but we have seized their armor, and are now fighting under their banner, with only a change of name.

The system is an odious one. It deprives the minority of all voice in the government—of all choice of action, and should the people of North Carolina submit to it, the voice of the legislature will hereafter not indicate the opinion of the majority of the body, but of a fraction of a party which, by boldness, intrigue, and cunning, can pass their opinions as the wishes of that party. Should it be persisted in, the people on the seaboard as well as non-slaveholders here, they are now geographically in a minority, but when matters are done openly—when members act upon their individual sense of right and wrong, we have some certainty in the power of decency and the sense of shame. Not so, however, if we must obey king caucus. Men will do many things, backed by a majority, which they would not dare to do, when acting on their own individual responsibility. The whole Van Buren party would never have united in rejecting the Jersey members from their seats, if many of them had not felt themselves constrained to do the bidding of the irresponsible and secret junta that controlled them.

The great reform of the Government which a majority of this assembly united in producing, has succeeded by a greater triumph than Gen. Jackson's celebrated reform. I trust it may not have a similar issue to prevent it. We should at least profit by his failure, and not embrace those errors we have condemned.

Gen. Jackson's administration came in by an immense majority; it was soon as a party perceptible that this immense majority, and the entire dispersion of the political opponents, relieved him from all restraint. His adherents told him he was born to command, and he believed it; the party was organized upon the principle of unconditional submission to the dictates of his chief, or those who assumed to speak for him. One by one his old friends and original supporters were driven out, by new and more suppliant tools, and the greatest and most execrable crime was committed to be, that of thinking for one's self.

I would advise those persons who are marching on in a similar career, to pause a while, if they have any other views than self aggrandizement. The people of North Carolina will not draw well in the political harness; they have not been fighting in the last contest, that a few men may get office, but that the constitution alone should govern, and that every freeman should, upon all occasions, have the full and unqualified right to express his sentiments free from the dictation of a caucus, or the control of any self-constituted body. Of the two gentlemen selected by this caucus, I have but little to say. We of the east have no claims upon either of them. They are the nominees of a caucus which expressly refused to make an advocacy of Nag's Head a condition of their election. The caucus took a bond for their good behavior. Eastern interest is not one of the conditions of the bond.

The friends of these gentlemen say, they have expressed themselves friendly to the measure; but, sir, have we not

rights to expect something more than cold lifeless friendship? We wanted that love which binds one to its object, and makes its prosperity a part of its existence. Mr. Mangum tells us, he discovered six years ago, that the improvement at Nag's Head was constitutional, and he called the fathers of the republican church together to make the revelation; and yet, sir, did any one ever hear of his opening his mouth upon this subject during his long term in the Senate? He seems to have had faith without good works; which it is said, availth nothing. Mr. Graham told us—I quote his language—that he is in favor of the project, but knows but little about it. He has been for many years a prominent member of the legislature, where this subject has been much agitated; he has been called on frequently, in vote upon it, in the shape of resolutions, &c. and yet he knows but little about it.

I shall believe these gentlemen to be our friends, when I see it reported in the National Intelligencer, that a bill has passed, appropriating nine hundred thousand dollars to open Nag's Head inlet; and not till then.

I know, Mr. Speaker, it will be asserted that disappointment is the true source of my present language. Those who know me, will do me justice, and from those who do not, I don't expect it. I do not, however, sir, mean to be deterred from my course by any consideration of this kind. I have seen, for months past, from signs too palpable to be misunderstood, that I had nothing to expect. I knew, sir, the speaker had gone forth, from the self constituted organs of a magnanimous party, that I should be proscribed, because my brothers had thought proper to think for themselves on general politics. I did not, however, suppose that the proscription would be extended to the whole eastern country. There are many gentlemen in that region of equal abilities to either of the nominees; but it seems the lawfields alone are the favored regions of North Carolina; and I have no doubt her immense interest at Washington will be most securely watched and guarded.

As it is my intention that my constituents shall see how high they stand in the favor and affection of their Whig brethren in caucus assembled, I will mention an incident which occurred, which, from its novelty, at least, deserves to be recorded. I have already said that the caucus refused to pass a resolution on the subject of Nag's Head; that interest was too trifling and beneath their notice. They closed their labors, however, by passing a resolution recommending an individual as a fit person to fill the cabinet appointment of Attorney General of the United States.

Now, gentlemen will doubtless be much obliged to them for saving him the trouble of thinking for himself upon this important subject. I do not know what the peculiar claims of the individual are, but I suppose, from the known constitutional opinions of the gentleman, who proclaimed his merits, that when our Senators proceed to execute the instructions of their constituents, they will address the President somewhat after this fashion:—We are authorized to present to you, for Attorney General, a gentleman of distinguished ability, who is a pure Republican, and Jeffersonian Democrat, of the latest fashion, and most approved model, revised and corrected by Daniel Webster.

By the by, Mr. Speaker, if you will pardon the digression, I will mention a fact, which may be of some service to some persons present. I am told, that ingenious Yankee invention, called the Democratic Jeffersonian Republicanism, is so much in request last summer, is getting scarce. I am told, that the supply in Boston is nearly exhausted; not, it is said, on account of the number of persons using it, but from the prodigious quantity of the article which it takes to make a Democratic Jeffersonian Republican out of a Boston federalist.

I find, Mr. Speaker, an impression prevails here, among some individuals, who believe every thing said in politics, that the improvement at Nag's Head is one of the usual political humbugs employed only for electioneering purposes. And whenever the subject is mentioned, they are ready with some stale jest—some party witicism, which, if it proves nothing more, proves at least their own ignorance and folly. These individuals disdain to read the various reports which have been made upon the subject; but endowed with a natural sagacity and innate wisdom, they pronounce the opinions of Gratiot, Gwynn, Bernard and Fulton, mere foolery. Who can be astonished that North Carolina has become a by-word and a jest, when such counsels prevail in her legislature?

We are told by men of the greatest ability who have made it their business to examine and thoroughly investigate the subject, that an inlet of fifteen feet water, at the foot of Albemarle Sound, is perfectly practicable; that it is a point on the coast where one is most needed—where more ships would annually happen than at any other point on the coast of North America. That an inlet there would

double the value of every acre of land on the Roanoke river, of the waters of Albemarle—would facilitate the draining of the country, and consequently, add immeasurably to its healthfulness, and value; that this inlet, two millions of the produce of the state finds its way to Norfolk, through the Dismal Swamp, upon which Virginia derives a tribute, and as much more cecks the beam, though the most arduous, expensive, and dangerous navigation in the world; and yet, sir, this vast interest, which appeals not only to our state pride, but to our humanity, does not excite as much attention in the legislature of North Carolina as the election of a door keeper.

One would suppose, if we were unable to exercise this great work ourselves, we would urge its execution by the federal government by all the means in our power. But even here the most proper arrangements steps in and claims priority of interest.

The Education district, in the judicial circuit, gave the only respectable Whig majority east of Roanoke. She at least, had some claims upon her Whig brethren for sympathy and aid; and yet, sir, these claims were smothered in a caucus, and denied a hearing before the legislature.

I would have preferred, Mr. Speaker, that some other eastern member had brought this matter before the attention of the Senate and the country. There are several here who are as zealous as myself in the cause of our improvement, and, perhaps, they would not have exposed themselves to the torrent of obloquy which I know awaits me. I have said but little, sir, about this road. I will, however, conclude by remarking, that we have given cordially to the west a Governor—or they have seized with a strong hand both the senators; they now take what little money may be in the Public Treasury to make a road over the mountains; they will have retained description of a tyranny—a government that has its sympathy with the governed—a government that treats with contempt and indifference the wishes the feelings and the interests of a large and respectable portion of its citizens.

Consistency, then, is a fool. Mr. Rice argues the case of the country because (as he assumes) Mr. Webster, a United States Senator, is to be a member of the Senate of North Carolina. That of itself is a good thing; but the Government is to be administered on the "Federal principle." To say nothing of the fact that the charter of the State of North Carolina was passed by a majority of the Senate, and approved by the President, the fact that it was approved by the President, without whose signature it could not have passed into a law, and that Mr. Calhoun, the champion of the Constitution, and Mr. B. Cranford (the Emperor's favorite) candidate for the Presidency, were its decided and able advocates, it will be sufficient to inform our readers that Mr. Webster, the secretary of state under Mr. Van Buren, is and has always been in favor of a United States Bank. And yet Mr. Forsyth is a plain Republican, and Mr. Van Buren's administration is considered on Republican principles.

Change of Fortune.—A young woman who had been sentenced to Blackwell's Island for petty larceny for three months, was yesterday discharged, her time having expired. While making preparation to leave, a gentleman who had just heard of her whereabouts, came on the found with a trunk full of elegant clothing, and what was better, the information that one of her relatives in Ireland had died, and bequeathed her the sum of twenty thousand dollars. She left the prison, elegantly dressed, and with a purse well filled with cash.

New Era. Mr. Snooks was asked the other day how he could account for Nature's firming him so ugly. "Nature was not to blame," said he, "for when I was two months old I was considered the handsomest child in the neighborhood—but my nurse one day, snatched me away for another day, just to please a friend of hers, whose child was rather plain looking."

"My dear," said a gentleman to a lady whom he thought he had married, "do you wish to make a fool of me?" "No," replied the lady, "Nature has saved me the trouble!"

A young buck of the soap-lock order, who wore an unshaven face, because, as he said, it looked "foreign," lately accosted a Yankee at one of our cities, as follows: "I say, fellow, come individuals think I am a Frenchman, and some take me for an Englishman, and what do you think I am?" "I think you are a damned fool," replied Jonathan.

"Murder will out."—In the trial of the Knapp and Crownshields, for the murder of Mr. White, of Salem, Mr. Webster, acting as counsel for the commonwealth, closed his argument on the circumstances which led to the disclosure with the remark—"Murder is a secret with which a man cannot trust himself."

The truth of this remark forcibly occurred to us in reading the brief details that have reached us connected with the murder of Mr. Suydam. The perpetrator—if report speaks true, and there is little reason to doubt it—had secured his unsuspecting victim, and in the silent secrecy of night buried him beneath his own cellar. The instrument was put away, and every stain of blood carefully effaced. To all human appearances the frightful secret might rest there undisturbed till the last trumpet!

But it was still too near the surface for the conscience of the perpetrator: a floor must be laid to close it down the more securely. That precaution, by one of those mysterious ordinances of Providence which human sagacity never penetrates, and human guilt never escapes, leads to detection! Truly murder is a secret with which a man cannot trust himself. His very concealments betray him. Spade and plank cannot avail.

Blood, like sacrificing Abel's, cries even from the tongueless caverns of the earth.

North American.

Gen. Harrison.—Extract of a letter from the correspondent of the Providence Journal, dated Cincinnati, Dec. 14.

Gen. Harrison on Friday resigned the clerkship of the Court of Common Pleas, an office which he held for a number of years, but the duties of which have of late been performed by Mr. Taylor, his son-in-law. The Locofoco Court, which holds its appointment for seven years from the Legislature, immediately appointed to the station one of the old General's basest revilers, and a man offensive to the community for his character and manners. The appointment was made in disregard of the recommendation of the bar, who, almost in a body, locofoco as well as whigs, signed a request to appoint Mr. Taylor, who, by his experience and education, was peculiarly qualified for the office, and by his great personal worth, and abstaining from all participation in politics, had now the respect and regard of all parties. The court, in refusing him the clerkship, has occasioned to the General an accomplished and faithful private secretary.

Mrs. Harrison has for many years lived in great retirement, and I am informed it is now more than twelve years since she has visited this city. She is a lady of most exemplary character—of strong domestic feelings, and warm, glowing piety. She is much absorbed in the care of her numerous family, and much attached to the old homestead; and it is probable she will continue to make North Bend the place of her residence most of the time. The honors of the White House will be dispensed, it is supposed, by one of her daughters.

THE GREAT MISSOURIAN.

The following extract of a letter is from a gentleman formerly of this city, now on a tour through the Western States, and at present in St. Louis, from whence he writes:

"I went the other night to look at the greatest curiosity that I have ever seen. It is called the great Missourian, and is the skeleton of the greatest animal ever known. It was found about 200 miles west of this place, in this State, by a German. It measures to the top of the ribs 10 feet high, is 20 feet long, has two tusks that are 10 to 12 inches in diameter, and are 16 feet apart. The head and tusks weigh 1100 pounds. The joints of the knees in the fore legs are inverted, so that he bends his knees the contrary way from any other animal. He appears to have been web-footed, has no hoofs, but has about 8 or 10 inches long. The owner has composed its name, in comparison to the size of an ox here that weighs 1000 pounds, and he is just 100 times larger than the ox, so that he must have weighed, when alive, 100,000 pounds. (50 tons.) I should think he would have required 5 or 6 buffaloes for breakfast. The six musicians, who play at the exhibition of the animal, sit up in his ribs. The owner has been offered 20,000 dollars cash for him. He leaves in a few days for New Orleans, from thence to New York, thence to Europe. It is worth a good fortune for any one man, but the owner will not sell it."

Troy Whig.

The Public Debt.—Speculations are going on in and out of Congress, as to the probable amount of the public debt. The statements of the President and Secretary of the Treasury, in regard to it, have met with flat and even plausible contradiction on the floor of the Senate and elsewhere. Mr. Webster has brought to sight some four or five millions of dollars not mentioned by either of them; and if other statements made with much seeming confidence prove true upon investigation, the public debt at this moment is not less than 15 or 20, instead of 4-12 millions.

as stated by the President in his Message. We cannot perceive the good that is to result to the Administration or the country, by this sort of concealment and misrepresentation. The people were entitled to the plain truth from their Chief Executive Magistrate, let it have been good or bad, palatable or unpalatable. We go for a searching investigation by Congress, into the financial situation of the Government and a full exposure of the same, before the present Administration retires from office.

Petersburg Star.

A Magnificent Project, by Mr. Calhoun. We copy the following extract from a letter of a correspondent of the Georgia Recorder, dated.

Washington, December 15.

It is rumored here that Mr. Calhoun has conceived, and will perhaps at this season develop, a grand scheme, sub-serving all the purposes of a bank, fostering the internal improvements of the States, and steering clear of all constitutional objections. The government is to advance to the railroad companies whose lines mainly intersect the country, a sum so large as that its interest will be equal to the cost of transporting the mail; it is to issue scrip, as evidence of the loan, irredeemable at any particular time without interest, receivable in payment of the public dues, and redeemable in discharge of public obligations; and for the final redemption of which, the proceeds of the public lands are to be pledged. What think you of all that, Master Brook? A vast skeleton, truly, into which, if it ever lives, may be breathed a prodigious amount of vitality. Such things are talked of here; and in connection with Mr. C.'s name; whether rightfully, or not, I cannot say. What the scheme is to be, if any such is at all presented, we know not; we can only guess vaguely. We therefore wait, and will do well neither to approve or condemn, until we are better informed.

From the New York Express.

Major Downing.

We have just received the following letter from our old friend Major Downing, and as it contains some timely and useful hints to office seekers, we delay not in presenting it to our readers. We could have hoped that his application at least would have found favor, but it seems that the Major realizes the truth of the old saying, that "the Shoemaker's wife is the worst shod woman in the Parish." However great our dependence on his philosophy, we have still greater in his patriotism in reconciling the General's advice to his own good sense—and we trust the moral will not be lost.

Log Cabin, North Bend, Dec. 8th, A. D. 1840.

To the Editors New York Express:

Ever since I sent you that letter telling you about the Fox Chase, I have had just as much as I could spring to, in helping the General read over petitions and applications for office. I thought, alone things got pretty surging that we would carry the day, that these petitions came in considerable strong; but ever since it has been known that the General had won the battle, they have come in by bushel baskets full. And the General can tell 'em just as quick as he sees the outside of 'em. "Bless me," says the General one day—"I wish Major, that during the last war when sometimes I wanted volunteers to follow me, that applications had been as numerous; but however," says he, "we must fold up and mark all these in regular order—there is no telling yet how soon we may want men to defend the country; and having all these good names at hand, we can send to them and tell them that although I could not appoint them all as collectors, and postmasters, and land receivers, and marshals, and district attorneys, yet I hope, as they are willing to serve the country, they will answer to their names at roll call." And so I am making out a list, and if only the ball on 'em to the mark, then, we shall make quick work against an enemy, when fighting times come." The most on 'em are the rule true democracy too—for they say in their petitions they once saw all Jackson and Van Buren men, but came round to good time and voted for the General and ever since then go the entire Cider and Log Cabin, and no mistake. It is really curious to see how some folks measure themselves, and get their friends to back 'em, assuring the General that in all creation round he could not find a better man than this applicant for the office he asks, and about 500 ask for the same office. "Bless me, Major," says the General, "how things have altered since I first grew up—why?" says he, "in them days a man of any kind of spunk and pride, would no more ask for an office than he would for vittles,—and the appointing power would just about as soon select a man to fill an office, who went round getting people to sign a petition for him as a man would select the gal for his wife who brought him a long petition in her favor. However," says the General, "a good deal of this I'm afraid has been encouraged by some of my late illustrious predecessors," who took a notion of keeping up their party first by making times hard and distressing honest industry, and then making folks work sharp and look for reward by seeking for an office.

I said to the General one day, says I General, I was thinking I might as well put in a petition myself for an office before it is too late, for according to service, says I—tho' I say it—I don't know any man who has done more work for nothing, than I have.

This seemed to puzzle the General

considerable. He looked at me a spell, and then he scratched his head and to rights he shook it, and says he, "Major, I don't know any man in your rank who has a bigger debt due him from his country than you have, and when folks say the public debt is paid off, they forget your claim; but it is a good investment as ever was and I advise you to hold on to it—there is no telling what it may reach if you let it run on, and don't ask any part on't, principal or interest, to be paid off. Now if you take an office, it will make a considerable hole in it, and some folks may say, 'there is one big debt wiped out at last.' No, no, Major, says the General, "I can't afford to settle that debt and part with you yet, for there is no telling what we may find to do when we get to Washington, and where your state and ax may be wanted. In the first place we have to examine the inventory of all the property of the people, or make a new one of all we find there; hursle up matters in the Treasury, and count over all the hard currency in the iron chests of the sub-Treasurers; look into matters in the Land Office, in the Post Office, and all the other offices, and see what is there, and what is not there, and what ought to be there,—and especially to see if any of the folks now there have by any accident left any of their own money behind them, and have it paid to them, so that every honest man gets his dues,—and the rogues (if there are any) may get their dues also. And after getting all these matters strait, then, Major," says the General, "if you want an office, I'll see that you have one, and the best one I can advise you to take is, to watch your chance and when you see a quarter section well located going at minimum prices, cut in and take it—and if you haven't got the money to pay for it, I'll lend you; and then shoulder your ax, and build your own cabin, and dig your own diggins, and if your country calls on you to fight, shoulder your musket and go; and there is no telling but the time may come when the People may drag you off your retirement, as they have me, and make you their President."

So that is pretty much all I have got to look for, and I thought I would tell it, just to let a good many folks see what the General's notions are if they don't get an office,—for it is just as like as not, if he don't appoint them it is because he wants to keep them to cut a bigger digger hereafter. Your friend,

J. DOWNING.

Major, &c. &c.

Salt River.—Gov. Boggs of Missouri, in his late Message to the Legislature of that State, manifests unusual solicitude for the improvement of the navigation of Salt River, which, we learn, for the first time, "has been recognized as a navigable stream by the general government,"—in anticipation, we presume, of the recent political revolution. He complains that the navigation is obstructed by numerous dams, erected by individuals—which will be a serious difficulty, of course, in the way of those gentlemen who will shortly be compelled to "row up" that celebrated, and as we had heretofore supposed, imaginary river. It is singular, as the Nashville Banner remarks, that while the Whigs had the Salt River Trade exclusively to themselves, the Locofoco Governor of Missouri seemed to care nothing for these obstructions!

From the Raleigh Standard.

DUPLIN COUNTY.

We have been requested to insert the following extract of a letter from Duplin county:

Kenansville, N. C., Dec. 29.

Dear Sir: A few nights ago one of those negroes (Brown's) that were confined in Jail for murdering Fountain, tried open the doors and made his escape through the hole that Powell and others made. Menning's two negroes did not get out, because they could not get the shackles off. As soon as Fountain's relations and friends heard of Brown's boy's escape, they mustered a company of 20 odd men and came up here, day before yesterday, every man armed with his gun, for the purpose of ascertaining whether the other two were safe and would likely be kept until they could be tried. Old Mr. Fountain went in the Jail sometime during the day, and said he had no idea they could be kept until Court. The company knocked about the village all day, and about 8 o'clock at night they procured a light and an axe, and went down to the Jail, and broke open the doors with the axe, and took the two negroes that were left out, and carried them a piece below Stanley's; built up a light in the road so that they could see, and shot them dead in the road, and proceeded on about their business. There was a jury held over them the next day.

School Lands.—The school lands in Michigan amount to rising 1,300,000 acres.—Should they sell at five dollars the acre, they would produce an annual interest of \$334,000 for the support of the schools; being near \$1,500 for every town in the State.

Small Notes.—In the Legislature of Maryland, on the first day of its session, before the Governor's message was received, Mr. Bowie asked and obtained leave to introduce a bill to authorize the banks to issue notes of a less denomination than five dollars, but not less than one.

Becoming Civilized.—The government paper in Havana, on the 2d ult., contained the names of about twenty men, who had been sentenced to hard labor for years, for carrying weapons prohibited by law.

Legislature of N. Carolina.

SENATE.

Monday, Jan. 4.

Mr. Wilson, from the judiciary committee, reported a bill to prevent the transportation of slaves on rail roads, stages, &c. without written permissions from their owners. Read the first time and passed.

Mr. Wilson, presented resolutions, requiring the President of the Raleigh and Gaston Rail Road company to furnish the Legislature with certain statements of the proceedings of the company in relation to the guarantee of the state for the loan authorized at the last session, and on his failure to do so, requiring the Attorney General to file a bill against the company, requiring compliance; which were read first time and passed.

Mr. Morehead, from the committee on the subject, reported a bill to unite the Literary and Internal Improvement boards—which passed the first reading and was ordered to be printed.

The bill for the establishment and better regulation of common schools, was taken up, amended, passed its second reading, and laid on the table.

Mr. Hellen presented resolutions appropriating \$20,000 for removing obstructions to steam navigation in Neuse River—which passed their first reading.

Tuesday, Jan. 5.

Mr. Bynum, from the committee on the subject, reported resolutions declaring that Congress has the constitutional power to charter a National Bank, as a fiscal agent of the general government, and as a regulator of the exchanges of the country; and that it is the duty of that body to establish such an institution whenever, in their wisdom, they may deem it necessary and proper; which were read and sent to the Commons with a proposition to print.

The bill for the establishment and better regulation of common schools was further amended, passed the third reading and ordered to be engrossed—29 to 17.

The bill to authorize the making a turnpike from Gatesville to the Chowan river, and to incorporate a company for that purpose, passed its third reading, and was ordered to be engrossed.

Wednesday, Jan. 6.

Mr. Hellen presented a bill to alter and amend the act to incorporate the North Carolina Central Rail Road company, passed in 1839; which passed its first reading.

The engrossed bill to establish a new county by the name of Cleveland; the engrossed bill to establish a county by the name of Caldwell; and the engrossed bill concerning pilots and commissioners of navigation for Cape Fear river, were read the third time, passed and ordered to be enrolled.

A great number of bills and resolutions of a private nature, were acted on during the evening session.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Monday, Jan. 4.

Mr. Burns presented a bill to incorporate the Salisbury Manufacturing company, which was read the first time and passed.

The bill for the relief of the Raleigh and Gaston Rail Road company, which had been rejected on Saturday last, was now, on motion of Mr. J. P. Caldwell, reconsidered. And on motion of Mr. Robards, a message was sent to the Senate proposing that said bill be referred to a select committee of five on the part of each house. To this proposition the Senate agreed, and appointed on their part Messrs. Edwards, Waddell, Shepherd, Mitchell and Kerr. Messrs. Barringer, C. Jones, Rand, McClellan, and Eaton were appointed on the part of the Commons.

Mr. Boyden presented a bill, in addition to the revised statutes, entitled an act for the prevention of frauds and fraudulent conveyances, which was read the first time, passed, and, on motion of Mr. B., referred to the committee on the judiciary.

The bill upon the subject of a Penitentiary, was read the second time and passed by a vote of 77 to 31.

The bill to prevent frauds in the execution of deeds of trust, was postponed indefinitely—62 to 39.

The preamble and resolutions relating to the Public Domain were considered separately, and each one passed by a large majority; whereupon, they were ordered to be engrossed.

Tuesday, Jan. 5.

The resolution calling upon the public treasurer for information relating to the public funds, was, after much discussion, passed. [This resolution orders the publication of all the transactions of the literary fund, embracing the loans made by that board, the names of the debtors, securities, &c.]

The bill to amend the revised statutes, entitled an act concerning the appointment of guardians and the management of orphans and their estates; and

The bill to regulate the measurement of ton and square timber, and saw mill lumber, were each read the third time, passed, and ordered to be engrossed.

The bill to establish and regulate common schools throughout the State, was made the order of the day, beginning tomorrow at 11 o'clock, and every subsequent day at that hour, until disposed of, and having precedence of all other bills.

The bill to amend the revised statute, entitled an act to prevent frauds and fraudulent conveyances;

The bill relating to the debtors; and

The bill in favor of the debtors; were

each read the third time, passed, and ordered to be engrossed.

The bill concerning the collection of fines and costs from corporations and free persons of color, was read the third time, passed, and ordered to be enrolled.

Wednesday, Jan. 6.

Mr. Barringer, from the joint select committee raised for that purpose, reported the bill for the relief of the Raleigh and Gaston Rail Road company, with sundry amendments. The bill and amendments were, on motion of Mr. B., laid on the table.

The engrossed bill for the establishment and better regulation of common schools, was read the first time and passed. By consent the bill was read the second time. Mr. Boyden moved to amend the bill by striking out from the first section the words "exclusive of monies arising from swamp lands." This amendment was lost by six votes, there being 52 yeas, 58 nays. Mr. Caldwell then moved to amend it by striking out the bill, wherever it occurs, the term "federal population." On this question much debate ensued, in which Messrs. Cad. Jones, Boyden, Caldwell, Winston, McCollum, Brogden and H. C. Jones supported the amendment, and Messrs. Eaton, Moore, Hill, Paine, Smith, Spruill, Reid, Roberts, J. R. Gilliam and G. W. Caldwell opposed it.

This amendment was lost by 10 votes, there being 52 for, and 62 against it. After further discussion, the bill was laid on the table.

The bill to give the county of Cherokee a superior court of law and equity; The bill to amend the law concerning the fees of coroners; and

The bill to amend the 53d chapter of the revised statutes concerning the Governor, were each read the third time, passed, and ordered to be enrolled.

Mr. Moore, from the committee raised on Banks and Bank suspensions, made a report; which, on motion of Mr. Winston, was, with the documents therein referred to, transmitted to the Senate, proposing that they be printed.

The bill concerning deputy sheriffs, was, on motion of Mr. Moore, postponed indefinitely.

Some twenty or thirty bills passed their second reading.

Inauguration of Governor.

The Inauguration of the Governor elect, John M. Morehead, took place on Friday, Jan. 1st, at 12 o'clock, in the Hall of the House of Commons, in presence of both branches of the Legislature, and a numerous auditory. He was attended by his Excellency Gov. Dudley, the Judges of the Supreme Court, and the members of the Committee of Arrangements. The oaths of office having been administered by Chief-Justice Ruffin, Governor Morehead expressed his gratitude for the honor conferred upon him by the people of North Carolina, in the following pertinent address:

Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Commons:

In obedience to the requisition of the Constitution, I have appeared before you and have taken the oaths prescribed, before I enter upon the duties of the Executive Office, to which I have been called by my fellow citizens of North Carolina.

I assure you it is with unfeigned diffidence that I enter upon the discharge of these high duties; and if I may not hope to bring as much ability into the Executive Chair as now leaves it, I will yet endeavor, in the discharge of my official duties, to rival the zeal of him whose seal I am now about to occupy. And I shall be more than fortunate, if at the expiration of my term of service, it may be said of me, as it may be well said of him, "well done thou good and faithful."

I desire to discharge my duties as it becomes the Governor of the State, and of the whole State; I desire to be the Executive of the People, and of the whole People; and it shall be my constant endeavor so to discharge those duties, that the laws suggested by your wisdom—and by the wisdom of those who have gone before you—shall be so administered, that all the beneficial results anticipated may be fully realized.

I shall be happy to co-operate with you in bringing into active operation, all the elements of greatness and of usefulness with which our State is so abundantly blessed.

Other States have outstripped us in the career of improvement, and in the development of their natural resources; but North Carolina will stand a favorable comparison with most of her sister States in her natural advantages, her great extent of fertile soil, her great variety of production, her exhaustless deposits of mineral wealth, her extraordinary water power, inviting to Manufactures—all, all combine to give her advantages that few other States possess.

Whatever measures you may adopt to encourage Agriculture, to induce the husbandman, while he toils and sweats, to hope that his labors will be duly rewarded; whatever measures you may adopt to facilitate Commerce, and to aid Industry in all the departments of life to reap its full reward, will meet with my cordial approbation.

And I am happy to find the action of one of your bodies has anticipated a suggestion that I had intended to make;—I allude to the subject of opening Roanoke Inlet. This is a great, if practicable, and to N. Carolina; it is a great advantage to the State; it is a great improvement, conducted by scientific skill, have shown that the work is practicable, and if so, it should be speedily executed.

The Commerce and Navigation of the

Nation would be greatly benefited by it, and if there be any work which the Federal Government ought to execute, and which steers clear of all constitutional objection, this is the work. Thousands of dollars are yearly spent to improve the navigation of rivers within the limits of some of the States, whilst this would be an improvement by which the Atlantic itself would be introduced within our borders.

If the General Government cannot execute a work of this description, or if it can and will not, then do we derive but little advantage from our Federal association; we should not ask the execution of this work by the General Government as a boon, but demand it as a right—and I hope the time is not far distant, when the applications of North Carolina to the General Government for her rights, will not be disregarded; therefore, whatever duties you may choose to assign me, to bring this subject to the attention of the General Government, will be most cheerfully performed. As there may be another session of Congress before our Legislative body may meet again, and as it is probable no action will be taken on the subject at this session of Congress, I would respectfully suggest that any communications which you may direct to be made, should be made to the next session of Congress as well as to this.

It is equally our duty, fellow-citizens, to attend to our moral and intellectual cultivation, for upon this depends our continuance as a free and happy people. Our State possesses in her University, an institution that will compare favorably with any other in the Union, at which a portion of our youth can be well educated; we have a number of Academies and other high schools at which another portion can receive excellent education; but it is to our Common Schools, in which every child can receive the rudiments of an education—that our attention should be mainly directed. Our system is yet in its infancy; it will require time and experience to give to it its greatest perfection, our Literary Fund should be carefully husbanded and I doubt not, in due time, the Legislative wisdom of the State will perfect the system as far as human sagacity can do it. And no part of my official duty will be performed with more pleasure than that part, which may aid in bringing about that happy result.

Nothing so surely indicates the happiness and prosperity of a people, as numerous school houses well filled during the week; and Churches well crowded on the Sabbath, and the latter is sure to follow the former. If we desire to perpetuate our glorious political institutions, we must give to all our people moral and intellectual cultivation; that man who improves his intellect for six days in the week, and on the seventh endeavors to give it the proper direction, from the precepts of our Holy Religion, who learns to do unto others, as he would they should do unto him—that man will never become a Tyrant—and he can never be made a slave.

Believing, as I do, that civility and good feeling should exist between the General Government and all the members of the confederacy, I shall endeavor while I have the honor to preside over North Carolina, on every occasion that may offer, to meet them with that courtesy to which they are justly entitled; and which a due self-respect and the dignity of our State require should be shown.

I will cheerfully yield to the General Government all the powers to which it is entitled, from a fair and proper construction and interpretation of the Constitution; while, on the other hand, I shall carefully maintain, protect and defend the rights which pertain to our own State. I shall be extremely careful to see, that North Carolina, when she speaks in her sovereign character, has a right to speak—and when she does so speak, through her great seal—the emblem of her sovereignty—while I have the honor to control it—it must be—it shall be respected.

The days of our political existence, under our present happy form of government are numbered, when the States shall permit their sovereignty to be contemned, and their great seals to be scooped at and disregarded.

In a word, fellow-citizens, whatever measures you may adopt to advance the prosperity of our State, and the happiness of our citizens, will meet with my hearty co-operation.

I cannot conclude my remarks without congratulating you and myself upon the time and place of our meeting. This splendid edifice has early approached its completion. You are the first legislative body that ever had the honor to assemble in this splendid Hall. I am the first Executive that ever had the honor to be installed within its durable walls. It will endure as a monument, for ages to come, of the munificence, liberality and taste of the age in which we live. There is a moral effect produced by the erection of such an edifice as this—it will serve, in the chain of time, to link the past with the future; and to ever remind proud spirit, that he ever characterized us—which has ever been ready to assert its rights, and to avenge its wrongs—which exhibited itself at the Revolution battle of 1770—which burnt with more brilliancy at the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence in 1775—and which boldly declared for independence in 1776—if even that proud spirit shall become craven in time to come, and shall not dare animate the bosom of a freeman—it took upon this monument—and remember the glorious institutions under which its foundations were laid, and the noble people by whom it was erected—and then let it become a slave if it can.

May endure for ages to come—may it endure until time itself shall grow old—may a thousand years find these hills still occupied by Freemen, legislating for a free and happy people.

CONGRESS.—The excess of rain for the last week has broken up the roads that the mails have become exceedingly irregular; we have, therefore, but little intelligence from Washington.

On Monday the 4th, in the Senate, the bill to establish a permanent pre-emption system was brought forward, on motion of Mr. Clay, of Ala., and a labored defence of the bill was made by him. Mr. Benton followed, in defence of the bill, which quoted largely from the messages of Mr. Van Buren, for the purpose of proving that he was in favor of the system.

Mr. Prentiss, of Va., followed in opposition to the bill.

Mr. Mangum, of N. C., continued the debate. He rose, not to oppose the bill, but to ask some questions in regard to it. He wished to know from the friends of the measure what was the nature of the bill—whether aliens could not avail themselves of the passage—whether the settlers could not under the act take a dozen tracts of land instead of one? Mr. Mangum gave other reasons, and asked other questions of the friends of the bill in reference to its effect. The system was a revolutionary one in our land system. It would operate not only with great inequality, but almost altogether in favor of the border settlements. The benevolence upon the face of the bill extended to the whole Union, but those who know the character of our population, know that it cannot benefit those in the Atlantic States—those in the old States—so it will those in the new.

In frankness, said Mr. Mangum, I am bound to say that I am opposed to the whole system of pre-emption. I believe it to be unjust and unequal, and therefore am opposed to the bill and the whole system which it contemplates. If it must pass, then I am for improving the bill, and making it as unobjectionable as possible.

Mr. Mangum offered an amendment in conclusion, confirming the benefits of the bill to free white citizens; which was adopted—yeas 37, nays 1.

A new question followed in the form of a new amendment, confining the operations of the bill to citizens of the United States.

Mr. Buchanan opposed the amendment, with Mr. Benton and Mr. Clay of Ala. Mr. Clay of Ky. favored the amendment, and spoke in its defense. I am opposed, said Mr. Clay, upon principle, to allowing aliens indiscriminately to take advantage of a privilege held out by the law of pre-emption. Whilst a citizen is an alien—while he owes allegiance to a foreign potentate, he ought not to be allowed the privilege of franchise until he renounces that allegiance. When you are going to give partial privileges, give them not to unnaturalized foreigners, to men yet bound by an oath of allegiance to a foreign king—the scro of Russia—the subjects of France and Austria—ought not to enjoy privileges in common with the active and naturalized citizens of the United States.

With this view of the bill, and believing it to open a door to all classes of foreigners to take advantage of a peculiar privilege, I shall vote now, as I did in 1838, in favor of the amendment.

The debate was further continued, and the amendment rejected—yeas 11, nays 29.

Fairly caught.—Early in the session, a resolution was introduced by Mr. Barnes, of Edgecomb, calling for an exposition of the affairs of the Literary Fund—the individuals to whom money has been loaned, the securities, &c. The resolution was promptly laid on the table, as authorizing an impertinent scrutiny into the private concerns of individuals. The Literary Board were authorized to lend out this money, and they are responsible to the Legislature for the manner in which the duty was discharged. Beyond this, the Legislature had nothing to do with the matter.

No one supposed that the resolution would be heard of again. But, a few days ago, it was called up by the mover, for action. We have no doubt the Administration party calculated on making great political capital of the proposition. They desired and expected the Whigs would oppose it, and then they would have gone home and said, "that the Whigs were afraid to let the people see what had become of their money, &c." The Whigs, however, smelt the rat, and voted almost unanimously for the resolution, greatly to the chagrin of their opponents. Raleigh Reg.

The Widows of Revolutionary Soldiers.—It is mentioned in the report of the War Department, that the act of July 1862, granting pensions to widows, was on the 4th of March next. The number of this class of persons is five thousand five hundred and eighty-six.

A Magnificent Volcano.—It is said that Kilauea, a burning mountain of Oahu, one of the Sandwich Islands, has a crater of more than nine miles in circumference, and lately threw forth a lake of liquid lava, one mile and a half broad, emitting intense heat and glowing with intense brilliancy.



Thursday, January 14.

We are making out our accounts, and transmitting them through the post office to subscribers in arrears. Those more convenient will be waited on by an agent. We hope in all cases our demands will be met in a spirit of justice and liberality, and with a promptness, which the many expenses connected with a printing office, for paper, type, &c. so imperatively require.

The regulations of the Post Office Department permit remittances to be made to editors through the Postmasters, free of charge, which our distant subscribers can avail themselves of.

In our recent trip to the north we made a purchase of some new type, which we shall expect to receive in a week or two, when we shall be able to make some improvement in the appearance of our paper.

Mr. HEARTT.—I send you a Bill of Mortality of our town of Hillsborough, and its vicinity, for the year 1840; from which it will be seen that there have been 14 deaths during the past year, in a population of about 1000—viz. Whites, 6 female and 2 male adults, and 1 child; Coloured, 1 adult female and four children, as follows:

1 white female,	83 years,	Dropsy
1 " "	83	Dis. of the Heart
1 " "	78	Dis. of the Heart
1 " "	60	Apoplexy
1 " "	60	Dropsy of Chest
1 " "	30	Pul. Consumption
1 white male,	67	Malaria
1 " "	30	Phrenitis
1 infant,	14 days	
1 colored female,	37 years,	Inflam. of Bowels
1 " "	10	Cong. on the brain
1 colored child,	2	Euteritis
1 " "	5 days	
1 " "	14 hours	

JAMES WEBB.

An article which we before noticed in the Nag's Head Advocate, afforded pretty conclusive evidence that the editors of that print had very imperfect ideas of the principles of gentlemen. A later number of that paper, now before us, constrains us to acknowledge that a very little training would qualify them for quite a conspicuous station in the pulpit of a London fish market. "Whisper editor," "sympathizer of the Recorder," "dirty sheet," and such like phrases, are the arguments by which the redoubtable editors of that "independent journal" attempt to sustain their blundering course—showing equally the poverty of their cause and the shallowness of their minds. To such arguments we do not choose to reply. We have occupied our station to very little purpose, if after a service of twenty-one years, it were now necessary to occupy our time in brushing off the mud cast upon us by any whifflet that can find amusement in a gutter.

If we were once surprised at the ignorance manifested by these editors, we shall be no longer. They acknowledge that they knew little of Mr. Graham's character; but since their first article they have visited Raleigh, and by the vast lights there afforded them, they were enabled to make the discovery that Raleigh was the "very place of his birth!" Now supposing this to be a sample of their credulity, it will not be imagined that their ignorance was much relieved by their visit to Raleigh. Whether they were wheedled by a practical quizz, or an unprincipled demagogue, it is not worth while to inquire; the figure they cut is in either case sufficiently contemptible; and is rendered complete when they imperiously ask "by what right does Mr. Graham claim the benefits of the high office to which he has been promoted?" as if the editors supposed that their dictum was powerful enough to overcome the action of the Legislature. All this raving will affect Mr. Graham quite as little as it does us; and the editors will find, that after all their boasted "independence," they have "strutted about" to very little purpose.

The editors of the Nag's Head Advocate have subjoined to their article the following card, to prove that they were right in putting Mr. Mangum down as "a political weather-cock." If the card proves anything, it is directly the reverse of what has been alleged by the editors; for there is not a man in this county, who has paid attention to the subject, who has not heard him express the very same sentiments. We have heard him repeat them, and during all the period when they have been discussed:

Willie P. Mangum says, that he never

voted for a bank in his life, neither State nor Federal. He further says, that he never voted to appropriate a cent in his life in favor of Internal Improvements by the General Government, without the District of Columbia. He further says, that he never voted in favor of a tariff of protection, but did and said every thing in his power to defeat every measure of that description. He further says, that he has uniformly voted in favor of economical appropriations, and has strongly disapproved of the increase of expenditures to upwards of \$38,000,000 at one or two years, and the general increase at all times for the last 4 or 5 years by the General Government. That the professions and hopes that he has acted uniformly upon the principles of strict construction of '98 and '99, and that he has never consented to be harassed by any party, so as to deviate from the above principles. And he defies any documentary proof in contradiction of any of the essential principles contained in the above. Mr. Mangum further says, that he is decidedly opposed to the present Administration, believing that the head of the government and many of his friends, have violated the most, if not all of the essential principles contained in the above.

In presence of, [signed,]
LOUIS D. WILSON,
W. A. BLOUNT.

Very Kind.—Something over a million of dollars have been expended by this state in works of internal improvement, east of Raleigh; while west of that city little has been done, and in all the country north-west, nothing. Now if the West, in addition to all this, will make an appropriation of a million of dollars for immediately opening Nag's Head Inlet, the enlightened and accomplished editors of the Nag's Head Advocate promise not to "say any thing more about the United States Senators, or the Hillsborough Recorder!"

The following remarks on the appointment of our Senators, are from the Hillsborough Advocate, and displays a liberality of spirit which ought to put to shame the narrow souled editors of Nag's Head:

Mangum and Graham.—We do not intend to praise or condemn the Legislature of North Carolina, for the recent election of Senators; for if Mangum and Graham are great men, they need as eulogium from our hands; if not, they will be condemned by their own weakness. Besides, they are placed in that situation, where, by the exercise of extraordinary powers of the mind, they can best distinguish themselves and serve their state. If, however, they should lose sight of the prosperity of the good Old North State, and fail to entwine laurels of glory around her brow, that circumstance will afford a prolific theme for comment. We scorn, to discuss the subject, whether or not the county of Orange was entitled to both senators. With us it is a matter of no moment. If our senators are men of sterling worth, the happiness of the good Old North State will be attended to—her character and honor advanced—though they were brothers, working the same plantation, and living in the same house. If our senators be patriots and statesmen, what difference will the simple fact of their living in the county of Orange make to the prosperity of the state? None! Yet an effort has been made to excite the East against the West, because they hail from the county of Orange. We trust that the Legislature of North Carolina will discard local prejudices from its councils, by indignantly frowning upon that man who forgets the statesman and plays the demagogue—who, by disregarding every moral influence, appeals to the worst passions of the heart, for the purpose of gratifying the mean passions of a wicked ambition. We condemn in the most unqualified terms the speech recently made by Wm. B. Shepard, in the Senate—as an effort wanting the enlarged views of a statesman, and the pure feelings of a patriot. In tracing out the evils by which we are at present surrounded, Mr. Shepard's position may furnish the key to the true cause. It may serve to show, that self is too often the main spring of human action, in legislative bodies as well as in the common intercourse of life; and it is no doubt this very principle of action, which has marked our inconsistency as a people, and brought calamity upon us as a nation. It does seem to us that a spirit of general displeasure ought to manifest itself throughout the state against the course of Wm. B. Shepard, on the bill of that young and talented champion of the West, Clingman, for a turnpike. The honest population of North Carolina can never be brought to sanction the bitter invective and severe recrimination of a weak vain man, whose position in reference to the bill referred to, is the result of disappointed ambition.

Correspondence of the National Intelligencer.

New York, January 3.
The thermometer cannot be far from zero. Such weather as this, if of long continuance, will freeze up the East as well as the North River. The sleighing is excellent, and night and day, people "improve" it.

Fresh movements are making in this quarter to make Mr. Van Buren prominent in another political campaign. The keys of some piano forte machinery in Washington are visible here. More anon, if more be necessary.

The Globe has poor luck, it seems to me, in noting the movements and plans

of the Whigs, at least poor as far as N. York city or state is concerned. Certainly, we mean to have, if we can get it, a better currency than we now have, a better state of the exchanges, and them in better hands. The New York people's plan, I dare say, is to plant "the 50,000,000 monster" in Wall street, which, by the way, has no notion of playing second fiddle to Chesnut street, Philadelphia. Nobody is more open-mouthed than New Yorkers are in blowing "Mr. Biddle's Monster" up, for many of them want a monster of their own. The war that Mr. Van Buren began 12 years ago, through General Jackson, was only to change the locus in quo. From 1825 to 1835, it was only a fight between Wall and Chesnut streets; and does the Globe think the war is over now?

Luna's Nature.—A negro woman in the county of Matthews, Va., was delivered, on the 26th Nov. of three children. One was a perfectly formed child, and is now living and hearty. The other two are a lusus nature, more remarkable in every respect than the notorious Siamese twins. The two children are united from the umbilical cord to the shoulders, sideways. They have each a perfect formation from the cord to the crown of the head. They have four perfect arms, two separate heads complete in their organization, and two chests. The formation from the umbilicus downwards, is that of a single child. There is only one abdomen, and two legs, with one organization of the male sex. They were living until a few moments before birth. They must have possessed two hearts and two separate pulmonary organs, with one set of intestines and lower extremities. They have been kept in spirits for preservation, with the intention of presenting them to a museum of some medical college, and consequently have not been dissected. Old Dominion.

Florida.—A small paragraph in the Charleston Mercury, credited to a paper in Florida, states that a letter had been received from an officer at Fort King, saying that the War Department had instructed General Armistead to treat with the Indians, and allow them a part of Florida. This is singular, that we have been fighting five years for Florida, and at last wind up the business, and let the Indians stay where they are. We hardly credit the statements.

N. Carolinian.

General Harrison.—The New York Express of Saturday contains the following extract of a letter, dated "Cincinnati, Dec. 24."

"Gen. Harrison was in town yesterday. He is in excellent health. He leaves here about the 12th of January for Washington, and will stop a day or two at Pittsburgh, and probably not reach Washington before the 20th or 24th. His family will not go on before the Spring, as Mrs. Harrison's health is not good, but has been delicate for a long time, as has been stated. He will stop a short time in Washington."

Legal Decision.—The Supreme Court of Ohio decided, a few days ago, that an endorsement on a note purporting that a partial payment had been made, and which endorsement was written by the maker in the presence, with the concurrence, and by the direction of the payer, is a receipt, the alteration or erasure of which by the payer, will be forgery.



No mail was received here from Raleigh yesterday; but we learn from one of our county members, who was on his return home, that the Legislature adjourned on Tuesday. Previous to the adjournment, an act was passed for the relief of the Raleigh and Gaston Rail Road company. The act guarantees the faith and credit of the state for the payment of a loan of \$300,000; and for the security of the state, the road and all its effects and appurtenances, are to be conveyed to the state in trust; and further, stockholders owning \$500,000 worth of stock, or other solvent persons, are to enter into bond in the sum of \$500,000, to indemnify the state for any loss it may sustain in consequence of its endorsement of the bonds of the company for \$500,000, under the act of 1838.

We have been furnished with a list of the acts passed by the Legislature, and shall publish it next week.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Orange County.

Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions,
November Term, 1840.

John U. Kirkland
vs
Thomas Hunter.

Original Attachment.

It appearing to the satisfaction of the Court, that the defendant is not an inhabitant of this state, it is ordered that publication be made in the Hillsborough Recorder for six weeks that unless said defendant appear at the next term of this court, to be held at the court house in Hillsborough, on the 4th Monday in February next, and replevin the property levied on and plead to issue, that judgment by default will be entered against him.

J. TAYLOR, c. c.

Filed Ady. \$4 50.

Union Academy.

THE spring session of this school will commence on the 15th instant and end on the 15th of June, including a term of five months, as usual. The tuition, per session, for the Preparatory Col. Course, \$18 50 English, 7 50
Board six dollars per month. Care will be taken to cultivate the moral, physical and intellectual faculties of the students, for which purpose the peculiar seclusion and healthiness of the situation is remarkably adapted.

JNO. R. HOLT.
South west Orange, Jan. 5. 55-44

HILLSBOROUGH FEMALE ACADEMY.

THE Trustees of this institution take pleasure in announcing that it still continues under the care of its former efficient and accomplished instructors. No pains have been spared to place it in the highest rank of Female Academies. The ensuing session will commence on Friday, the 23d of January. Parents and Guardians are particularly requested to bring their daughters or wards in time to be in readiness for the opening of the school, as it is important that the pupils of each class should enter upon their studies at the same time. The mode of instruction, as well as the text books adopted, are, as far as practicable, those recommended by the American Common School Union.

1st Class—Spelling, Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Grammar, Geography, with the use of the Globes, History, Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, Mythology, Botany, Rhetoric, Astronomy, Geology, Political Economy, Dictation and Composition.

2d Class—Spelling, Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Grammar, Geography with the use of the Globes, History, Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, Dictation and Composition.

3d Class—Spelling, Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Grammar, History and Geography.

4th Class—Spelling, Reading, Writing, and Arithmetical Tables.

TERMS OF TUITION.—PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.
First Class, \$17 00
Second Class, 15 00
Third Class, 13 00
Fourth Class, 12 50
French, by a native, 15 00
Latin, 15 00
Music on Piano or Guitar, 25 00
Drawing and Painting, 12 00
Needle-work on Canvas, 5 00
Do. on Muslin, 3 00

JAMES S. SMITH,
C. D. JONES, Sr.,
WM. CAIN,
HUGH WADDELL,
STEPHEN MOORE,
NATHAN HOOKER,
P. H. MANGUM.

References:—Rev. Wm. M. Green, Professor at the University; Rev. Samuel J. Johnson, of Edenton.
January 8. 55-6w

Dissolution.

THE copartnership of WM. H. BROWN & CO. in the Shoe Business, was dissolved on the 25th day of October last, by its own limitation. The books and accounts are placed in the hands of John U. Kirkland, who is authorized to collect the debts and close the business.

JNO. U. KIRKLAND,
WM. H. BROWN.

January 14. 55-4w

Boot and Shoe Store AND MANUFACTORY.

THE subscriber, having purchased the entire stock of William H. Brown & Co., would respectfully inform the public, that he intends carrying on the business in all its various branches. All work put into his hands will be neatly and expeditiously executed, as he has for its execution first rate materials and first rate workmen. And he hopes, by a faithful attention to his business, to receive a liberal share of public patronage.

To supply the wants of the community in his line of business, he has also purchased

A LARGE AND HANDSOME ASSORTMENT OF Northern Boots & Shoes;

and intends keeping a supply of these articles constantly on hand. His assortment consists principally of the following articles:

Gentlemen's fine Boots, first quality.
Do. second do.
Do. third do.
Boys' Boots, of various qualities.
Men's Shoes, do.
Men's Pumps, do.
Do. Leather Over-shoes.
Do. India Rubber do.
Stout Brogans, for Men and Boys.
Boys' fine Shoes, of various qualities.
Ladies' Quilted Boots, a new and superior article.

Do. fine Slippers, turnrounds.
Do. do. springs.
Do. do. thick soled.
Do. Buskins, thin soled.
Do. do. thick soled.
Do. Morocco Jefferson-lies.
Do. Seal-skin do.
Do. Seal-skin Booties.
Do. Leather do.
Misses' Morocco do.
Do. do. Slippers, thick soled.
Do. do. thin soled.
Ladies' India Rubber Over-shoes.
Children's Shoes, of various qualities and colors, &c. &c.

It is deemed unnecessary to enumerate all the various kinds and qualities in the assortment. The assortment is complete, and having been pretty well all selected by the subscriber, are believed to be such as will do good service. So those who wish to purchase good Boots and Shoes, or cheap Boots and Shoes, or Boots and Shoes of any kind, are requested to call on the subscriber.

WM. H. BROWN.

January 13. 55-3

A Card.

DR. KIRKWOOD, having now no other occupation or business whatever, will devote himself entirely to the practice of Medicine. He may be found (when not professionally engaged) at his shop, in Yarbrough's old store, East of the Court House, ready and willing, at all times and seasons, to attend calls. Hillsborough, Dec. 19. 55-3

BLANKS for sale at this Office.

Corn! Corn! Corn!

THE subscriber wishes to purchase FIVE HUNDRED BARRELS OF CORN.

J. S. SMITH.

January 12. 55-4

List of Letters.

Remaining in the Post Office at Hillsborough, N. C., on the 1st day of January, 1841, which, if not taken out in three months, will be sent to the General Post Office as dead letters.

B. L. Henry A. London

A. Marx
Rev. Jos. A. McManen
Dr. Alexander Morrow
Adeline Mitchell

C. N. William Neville

O. C. J. Orrell
Sarah O. Daniel

P. John Porterfield

William Rodwell
Christopher Roberts
John E. Rogers
Miss Emily Ray

S. Oren B. Savage
Dr. J. Shoppard
Wm. J. Sparrow
Peter Stewart

T. Mrs. Mary E. Stanley
L. A. Sledge
John Sloan
Rev. Daniel Stratton

U. John Underwood

W. Frederick N. Hayward
John Williams, Jr.
Henderson Wood
Sancus Woods

Y. Benjamin Whaley
Madison H. Wilber
T. M. Wright
John Wilkinson

Z. Mary Ann Kinney
Wm. E. Yellowley

Persons calling for any of the above letters will please say they are advertised.

THOS. CLANCY, P. M.

January 5. 54-4

An English Teacher WANTED.

THE Board of Commissioners of the town of Hillsborough, are desirous to engage some competent person to take charge of the English Male Academy belonging to the town. It is believed that a sufficient number of scholars could be procured to make the undertaking profitable to any one who could command the confidence of the community. Immediate application is requested; and may be made to the Magistrate of Police, E. A. HEARTT, T. Clerk.

January 7. 54-4w

Strays.

TAKEN up by Jackson Kent, and entered on the stray book of Orange county, on the 8th of December 1840, four stray HOGS, marked as follows: a crop on the left ear, and swallow fork on the right ear; one of them is blue, one with a white list, one dark smutted, and two black spotted; supposed to be about two years old. Valued at five dollars.

JNO. A. FAUCETT, Ranger.

January 6. 54-4

Look at This!

ALL persons indebted to me by Note are requested to come and settle them, and all persons indebted to me by Accounts are requested to settle them with Cash or Notes, as I wish to close my books up to this time, 1st of January 1841.

A. PARKS.

January 5. 54-4w

Notice.

I HAVE reason to believe, that many persons, traders and millers, in Orange county, have incurred the penalty fixed by law for failing to have their weights and measures regulated by me as the standard keeper of the county; These are to notify all concerned, that I shall proceed against all delinquents in one month from the date of this notice.

WILLIAM HORTON,
Standard keeper for Orange.

January 7. 54-4

Land for Sale.

HIT OR MISS, twelve miles north west from Hillsborough, four hundred acres of LAND for sale, wholesale or retail. The land will justify the price.

THOMAS REEVES.

December 23. 53-4w

HILLSBOROUGH ACADEMY.

THE Spring Session will begin on the second Monday in January.

W. J. BINGHAM.

JNO. A. BINGHAM.

English Department conducted by A. C. LINDSEY.

December 10. 51-3w

The Raleigh Register, Star and Standard will insert once a week for four weeks.

FEMALE SCHOOL

in Hillsborough.

THE SPRING SESSION of Mr. and Mrs. Burwell's School, will commence on Monday 11th of January.

Terms:

For English studies, \$17 50
" Latin, 10 00
" French, 10 00
" Drawing and Painting, 25 00
" Music, 25 00

Instruction in Music will be given by Miss Laura Smith, a young lady whose qualifications are of the first order. No deduction made for absence after the pupil is entered.

Board can be had in responsible families for \$10 per month, including every thing. December 9. 51-3w

Raleigh Register, and Standard, Newbern Spectator, and Western Carolinian, insert once a week for four weeks.

